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N^o. XVI.

*Postscript to Mr. BARTON's * Letter, to Dr. RITTENHOUSE, of the 17th of March, 1791.*

Read Dec.
2d, 1791.

SINCE the date of my letter, on the subject of population and the probabilities of the duration of human life, in this country, an actual enumeration has been made, of the inhabitants of the United States; and the returns of the census have been transmitted to the secretary of state, from all the districts in the union, excepting the state of † South-Carolina.

I beg leave, therefore, to subjoin four tables, deduced from those returns; inasmuch as they may serve to establish some of the positions, which were advanced in the letter referred to, and to verify the observations resulting from the facts therein stated.

The table, N^o. 1, gives the ratio of free white males, under sixteen years of age, to the intire number of free white males, in each state, respectively: And N^o. 2 gives proportions, of the like kind, for four several sections of the state of Pennsylvania.

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* The reader is requested to correct, in that letter (see page 25), the following errors, which were overlooked until after the paper was printed---viz. page 27, line 6th from the bottom; for *on read ou.*---Same page, line 4th, from the bottom, for *bist. royal acad. sciences*---read *bist. royal acad. sciences*.---Same page, line 3d from the bottom; for *probabilities*---read *probabilities*.---Page 30, last line; erase the words *in that state*.---Page 31, line 3d, from the bottom; for *Verfailles*---read *Verfailles*.---Page 35, lines 24th and 25th from the top; read the proportion of free white males, under 16 years of age, to the whole number of free white males, of all ages, in Massachusetts, &c. Same page, line 4th, from the bottom; for 1783---read 1683.---Page 37, line 20th, from the top; for 1536---read 1535.---Page 35, line 14th, from the bottom; for *country, Virg. read county Virginia*.---Page 47, line 19th, from the top; for 925 *wbom*---read 925 of *wbom*.---Page 59, lines 7th and 9th, from the bottom; the letters (*j*) and (*k*), referring to notes, should be transposed, in order to designate the notes to which they properly refer:---And the note marked (*l*), (page 61, last line, and ending with the word "inhabitants,") should be placed at the conclusion of the whole; the table, at the top of page 62, being a continuation of the note marked (*k*).

† Since this paper was read in the society, the census for South-Carolina has been completed, and the result published by authority. Such alterations have therefore been made, in the subsequent part of the observations, as to accommodate them to that circumstance.

The table, N°. 3, exhibits the ratio of free white males to free white females, in the several states, respectively, including the South-Western territory : And N°. 4, shews similar proportions, for the before mentioned four sections of this state.

By the census, it is found, that the intire number of free white male inhabitants, in all the states, collectively, is, to the number of that description under sixteen years of age, in the same, as 100 of the former to 49. 52, of the latter : and it may be presumed, that nearly the same ratio obtains among the females. It is also found, that the number of free white male, to that of the free white female inhabitants, in all the states, collectively (and including therewith, the South-Western territory), is, as 100 of the former to 96. 35, of the latter.

Although there are in the United States, (taking the South-Western territory, likewise, into the calculation) nearly 59,000 more free white males than free white females; yet it appears, that the states of Massachusetts, Rhode-Island and Connecticut, contain nearly 9,000 more of the latter than of the former. In general, there is the highest proportion of females in those states, *from* which there have been the greatest emigrations; because more men than women migrate:—Hence we find the highest proportions of males in Kentuckey, Vermont and the South-Western territory, *to* which the most numerous migrations have recently been made.

We observe, also, the highest proportions of persons under sixteen years of age, in the states of Kentuckey, North-Carolina, Georgia, South-Carolina, and Virginia; where the population is thin, in comparison with the extent of territory, and where—owing to the facility of acquiring lands, from which ample and certain subsistence is readily obtained— people marry earlier in life and produce the more children.

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The same observations will apply to the state of Pennsylvania. This state contains twenty-one counties:—The capital contains the highest proportion of females to males; the nine oldest counties—comprehending the most populous part of the state, and excluding the capital—have a lower proportion of females; the eight counties next settled, in point of time, give one still lower; and the four counties, last settled, give the lowest proportion of all.

This order is directly inverted, with respect to the ratio of persons, under sixteen years of age, to the intire number of all ages, in those several sections of this state; the four transmontane counties containing the highest proportion of males under sixteen, and the city of Philadelphia having the lowest.

The course of the migration of our inhabitants, is from the long-settled and most populous parts of the country, towards the extensive tracts of yet unimproved lands in the new states, and on the frontiers of most of the older ones. This is, evidently, the principal course of the various proportions in the number of males to females—and of persons under sixteen years of age, to the intire number of all ages,—which are found in different parts of the union: And the operation of this cause is, also, plainly discernible in Pennsylvania; the progress and actual state of its population, corresponding with the principle.

Other causes undoubtedly concur, in producing those inequalities of ratio in different situations, which have been noticed; but these, it is not necessary to investigate.

It may not be improper to observe, in this place, that, in calculating the ratio of annual deaths to the living, for the city of Philadelphia, the estimate of $\frac{1}{45}$ dying annually was made, on the presumption of this city containing 41,580 white inhabitants. The census makes the number only 40,442;—at which rate, the annual deaths would amount to one out of every $43\frac{7}{100}$, of the living. But,

as a very considerable number of those who reside in the vicinity of Philadelphia—probably for several miles around—bury their dead in the city; and as the census is generally supposed to fall short of the real numbers of our inhabitants; the conjectural estimate, before mentioned, cannot be much too high, if any.

Many other observations, relative to the subject of this enquiry, will be suggested by an examination of the annexed tables, and of the census itself: but, if such as have been offered should serve to elucidate that subject, it will be a gratification to me, to have contributed my mite on the occasion.

W. BARTON.

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(TABLE

(T A B L E, N^o. 1.)

States.	To 100 free white males of all ages.	Free white males, under 16 years of age.
Kentucky,	To 100	52.95
N. Carolina,	100	52.54
Georgia,	100	51.73
S. Carolina,	100	51.46
Virginia,	100	51.14
Delaware,	100	50.75
Vermont,	100	49.88
Rhode-Island,	100	49.65
New-Hampshire,	100	49.12
Pennsylvania,	100	49.11
Massachusetts,	100	48.31
New-York,	100	48.27
Maryland,	100	47.86
New-Jersey,	100	47.78
Connecticut,	100	47.33

South-Western territory,—not ascertained
by the census.

(T A B L E, N^o. 2.)

The state of Penn- sylvania, divided into four sections.	To 100 free white males of all ages.	Free white males, under 16 years of age.
The four western- most counties,	To 100	53.44
Eight counties set- tled prior to the preceding four, & after the remain- ing counties of the state.	100	51.57
The nine oldest counties, exclu- sive of the capital.	100	47.82
The city and sub- urbs of Philadel.	100	42.05

(T A B L E, N^o. 3.)

States.	To 100 free white males of all ages.	Free white females, of all ages.
Rhode Island,	To 100	102.62
Massachusetts,	100	102.10
Connecticut,	100	102.94
New-Hampshire,	100	98.90
New-Jersey,	100	96.10
N. Carolina,	100	95.40
Pennsylvania,	100	94.77
Georgia,	100	94.77
Virginia,	100	94.70
Maryland,	100	94.53
New-York,	100	94.12
Delaware,	100	93.55
South-Western territory,	100	92.85
S. Carolina,	100	91.24
Vermont,	100	90.49
Kentucky,	100	89.78

(T A B L E, N^o. 4.)

The state of Penn- sylvania divided into four sections.	To 100 free white males of all ages.	Free white females, of all ages.
The city and sub- urbs of Philadel.	To 100	106.29
The nine oldest counties, exclusive of the capital.	100	96.03
The eight counties settled next after the preceding nine.	100	91.63
The four western- most and last set- tled counties.	100	89.09

New